
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FEBRUARY 4, 1871.

Read twice, referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. MOREY, on leave, introduced the following bill :

A BILL

To prescribe an oath of office, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That hereafter every person elected or appointed to any of-
4 fice of honor or profit under the Government of the United
5 States shall, before entering upon the duties of said office and
6 before being entitled to any of the salary or emoluments
7 thereof, take and subscribe the following oath or affirmation :
8 “I, A. B., do solemnly swear (or affirm) that to the
9 best of my knowledge and ability I will support and defend
10 the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, for-
11 eign and domestic ; that I will bear true faith and allegiance
12 to the same ; that I take this oath freely, without any mental
13 reservation or purpose of evasion ; and that I will well and

14 faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am
 15 about to enter : so help me God ;" which said oath so taken
 16 and signed shall be preserved among the files of the court,
 17 House of Congress, or Department to which the said office
 18 may appertain. And any person who shall falsely take the
 19 said oath shall be guilty of perjury, and on conviction, in ad-
 20 dition to the penalties now prescribed for that offense, shall
 21 be deprived of his office and rendered incapable forever after
 22 of holding any office or place under the United States.

1 SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That no other oath
 2 shall be required : *Provided,* That nothing in this act shall be
 3 construed to relieve any person now laboring under disabili-
 4 ties imposed by the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution
 5 of the United States from the penalty or penalties imposed
 6 by any law for holding or attempting to exercise the functions
 of any office contrary to law.

1 SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That all acts or parts
 2 of acts inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed.